

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				Application Number	09/777,661
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Confirmation Number	9239
				Filing Date	February 7, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Makoto TSURUTA
				Art Unit	1733
				Examiner Name	Justin R. Fischer
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q62661

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
	AA	5,996,662	A	12-07-1999	CLUZEL
	AB	3,392,773	A	07-16-1968	WARREN, ET AL.
	AC				
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
	AG				
	AH				
	AI				

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>			
	AJ	EP	0 712 738	A	SUMITOMO RUBBER	
	AK	FR	2 566 334	A	BRIDGESTONE CORP.	NO
	AL					
	AM					
	AN					
	AO					
	AP					
	AQ					
	AR					
	AS					

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OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.			Translation <sup>6</sup>
	AT	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 016, No. 498 (M-1325) (10-15-1992) as it relates to JP 04-183605 issued 06-30-1992 to Yokohama Rubber Co.			
	AU				
	AV				
	AW				
	AX				
	AY				

Examiner Signature	<i>Justin Fischer</i>	Date Considered	12/30/02
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP-901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.